

L.S.J.M.J.
Same as letter # 4-376
L.S.J.M.J.
(Dictated letter)

18-172(2)

18-173

Madame Superior

I thank you for the details you sent me about my niece Louise. I hope that dear child will be faithful to grace and will walk generously along the way the Lord Jesus Christ has just opened up to her. That way has its harshness at the beginning, but gradually faith makes it practicable and charity ends by making it sweet, as you are careful to explain to your children.

Tell her I am pleased with her letter and make it my pleasure to give her papa and Clara the news I have received from the dear postulant.

I have been very satisfied to see the good things you tell me about your novices. I beg our good God to grant them perseverance and give all of you my fatherly blessing.

(In the Founder's hand)

Your Father in Jesus Christ

C. G. Van Crombrugghe

Ghent, 27th June 1865
(Dictated)

P.S. Be kind enough to read to Louise what I have written to you about her and add that her letter gave me great pleasure. I will write her a few lines at another time.

(In the Founder's hand)

Mme Superior General has announced to me the imminent arrival of a postulant, Mlle (name illegible) but she has forgotten to tell me whether she is educated.

I greatly praise the project of preparing in our convents for each First Friday, by a novena to the Sacred Heart, with the objective of asking for docile pupils and for the graces for the mistresses to guide those pupils well.

Today, the first Saturday of the month, I beg the very holy Heart of Mary to thank the Lord on our behalf for the graces he deigned to grant us during the month of St Joseph, the month of Mary and that of the Sacred Heart which we have just celebrated.

Know that I applaud this wise resolution with all my heart.

(Letter 18-? seems to be incorrectly placed. The reference to the death of Mme Aloyse would put this letter in 1838. It may have been written to Mme Clothilde Minne (Letters # 17). Mme Clothilde Minne died in 1842. Mme Clothilde Van Wymelbeke was professed in 1845)